Hawaii Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy" February 4, 2000 Volume 25 Issue 5

USS Frederick offers

public tours

The public is invited to step aboard and tour USS Frederick (LST 1184) tomorrow, Feb. 5, from noon to 4 p.m. at Pearl Harbor Bravo Pier 20. Visitors may enter through the Nimitz Gate and proceed directly to the "Visit Ship." Reservations are not re-

quired. For safety purposes, children must be at least 8 years old. Guests should wear com-fortable shoes and dress for climbing ladders and walking over gridded deckplates.

For more information about USS Frederick, please refer to the Navy Region Hawaii website at www.hawaii.navy.mil. For more information about the ship tours, please contact the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 471-

GSA Closed for

Inventory
The GSA Customer Supply Center Schofield Barracks will be closed Feb. 21- 25 for inventory. The store at Hickam Air Forces Base will be closed Feb. 28-March 3. For more information, call 655-0280 or 448-8937.

Pearl Harbor

Commissary closure
The Pearl Harbor
Commissary will close at 3
p.m. Feb. 11 to conduct an annual accountability inventory. The Commissary will re-open Feb. 12 at 9 a.m. For more information call 471-8402.

NMCRS Fund Drive 2000 to begin in

March
The 2000 Navy and
Marine Corps Relief
Society (NMCRS) fund
drive for Navy and Marine Corps activities in Hawaii will be held from March 6 through April 7, 2000. The theme for this year's drive is "At The End Of The Rainbow When Needed" Rear When Needed". Rear Adm. John W. Townes, III, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, will ad-dress the fund drive keypersons at the kickoff meeting to be held at Sharkey Theater (Building 628) at 10 a.m., Feb. 17. All Command keypersons should plan to attend. Uniform is summer khaki or summer

See also...



Pearl Harbor offers many historical sites ...B-1

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Russell departs for WESTPAC

By JOCS(SW) Phil Eggman NAVY REGION HAWAII

SS Russell (DDG 59) and her crew of 24 officers and 308 Sailors said goodbye to family and friends last Friday when the ship departed Pearl Harbor

for a six-month deployment. USS Russell, an "Arleigh Burke" class guided missile destroyer, will join the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) Carrier Battle Group on deployment to the western Pacific and Arabian Gulf.

Commanded by Cmdr. Robert W. Winsor, USS USS Russell is named after Rear Adm. John Henry Russell who is famous for his Civil War heroics in Pensacola Harbor. The ship was commissioned on May 20, 1995. The USS John C. Stennis

(JCS) Carrier Battle Group is a warfighting force of seven surface ships, two sub-marines and eight squadrons equipped and trained to work as a forward deployed force. The battle group provides a deterrent against aggression and protection of vital U.S. interests anywhere in the

Additional information about USS Russell is available on the Navy Region Hawaii website www.hawaii.navy.mil.



EMSN Julian Alexander removes a mooring line from USS Russell (DDG 59) at Bravo Pier last Friday as crewmembers wave good-bye to their family and friends. Russell, an Arleigh Burke class guided missle destroyer, left for a six-month deployment to the western Pacifc and Arabian Gulf, joining the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) Battle Group.

Ohana Conference 2000 is just around the corner

By JOCS(SW) Phil Eggman

NAVY REGION HAWAII

The fifth annual Ohana conference is scheduled for March 1-2 at the Shipyard Training Center (Bldg. 2).
"The Ohana Conference is impor-

tant because it allows quality of life issues to be brought to the forefront so that improvements can be made, said Sharleen Proctor, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Ohana project

coordinator.
Prior QOL improvments from past conferences include improved Personal Support Detachment (PSD) customer service, improved Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) communication, installation of traffic lights and water fountains,

improved family housing communication, revised housing inspection standards and increased military involvement in Hawaii's public school education.

The Hawaii Navy Ohana Quality of Life program was established in 1995 to demonstrate Navy leadership's commitment to improving the quality of life for the Hawaii Navy Ohana. The program is a process that involves identifying quality of life issues to senior Navy leadership to raise awareness and to take action for improving the quality of life

for the Navy's Ohana in Hawaii. Ohana means "family" Hawaiian. The Hawaii Navy Ohana includes the active duty Sailor, his family members, reservists, civilian employees and retirees.

In years past, quality of life issues were written anonymously on a sheet of paper. In 1998, only 700 people provided comments. So far, over 1200 people have provided information this year towards improving the quality of life for the Navy Öhana on Hawaii.

Increased participation is due to a web-based Ohana survey, available on the Navy Region website through Feb. 21. A remote site will be set up on Feb. 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Navy Exchange complex for people who do not have Internet access at home. The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.

The survey collects quality of life issues for the two-day Ohana conference. The data from the survey is compiled and presented at the conference where delegates review and prioritize the issues, which are forwarded to Navy commanding officers or program managers in the region for action.

Issues that cannot be resolved at

the local commanding officer/program manager level are forwarded to the Hawaii Region Flag Quality of Life board for resolution. Feedback on the status of all the issues are provided to the Navy community throughout the year.

The Ohana survey can be found at http://www.hawaii.navy.mil. For more information contact Navy Region Hawaii Quality of Life Coordinator, Sharleen Proctor, at 474-4752.

Pacific Fleet OINE on

Rear Adm. Albert H. Konetzni Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet



By Lt. Cmdr. Dave Werner

PACFLT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

This is one in a series of interviews with the leadership of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and the Navy. A native of White Plains, N.Y., Rear Adm. Albert H.Konetzni assumed his present as-signment in May 1998. He graduated from the

U.S. Naval Academy in 1966 and served aboard numerous submarines and commanded USS Grayling (SSN 646). He has also served as Deputy Commandant of the Naval Academy. Prior to his current assignment, Konetzni served as Commander, Submarine Group Seven in Yokosuka, Japan. He holds a master's in industrial management from George Washington University and co-authored the book "Command

You've been Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) for about 20 months. What has been a difference between this job and any other that

First and foremost I can tell you that I could not be prouder of the accomplishments and efforts of our submarine crews. If this position has shown me anything it's that everyone from the captains to the COBs (chiefs of the boats) to the junior man - top-to-bottom - have routinely demonstrated their ability to meet and exceed mission goals provided to them. For over a-year--and-a-half, I've seen submarines conduct and successfully complete some operations that weren't only demanding and required the highest degree of professional expertise, but simply hadn't been tried before. That's the good news. That success comes at a cost, however.

The unique capabilities of submarines are increasingly in higher demand. I've seen a steady increase, not just in the number of missions, but also the diversification of tasking. I think word has gotten out on just how valuable submarines can be to a region. They afford theater commanders presence - overtly, such as in port visits or exercises - or covertly, submerged and

ready without any logistical train.

That means commanding officers have to train their crews for any number of possible missions

before they deploy.

Those who know you best say you're most impassioned about people. If you were asked, what you'd like your legacy to be here, what would you like it to be?

I'd like to think that I'd be remembered as the guy that gave pride in command back to the sub-marines and their crews. I think it was reflected throughout the Navy, frankly, that we valued safety and non-eventful leadership over tenacious, "go-get-'em" attitudes. The buzz word was "zero tolerance," and I honestly feel that commanding officers and crews got to point where they would rather tow the line and not make waves because it was professionally safer - but not necessarily better.

I don't think that's how to inspire guys or the way to build winning teams within the lifelines. I really wanted to hand the reigns back to the COs and the COBs and get them truly thinking and acting on their own. We in leadership ashore

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